

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08
TRSE-00 DHA-02 COME-00 /089 W
-----013958 061533Z /12

O 061305Z AUG 77 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8324

INFO USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

AMCONGEN DURBAN

AMCONGEN JOHANNESBURG

AMCONGEN CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3922

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USSF PFOR

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER ASSERTS US POLICY WILL LEAD
TO CHAOS IN SOUTH AFRICA

1. SUMMARY.

PRIME MINISTER VORSTER TOLD DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS (FFA) 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET LAST NIGHT,
AUGUST 5, THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS EMBARKED ON A
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COURSE WHICH WILL LEAD TO CHAOS AND ANARCHY IN SOUTH
AFRICA. WE ARE SEEKING THE FULL TEST FOR TRANSMITTAL
IMMEDIATELY IT IS AVAILABLE. END SUMMARY.

2. LAST NIGHT (AUGUST5) PM VORSTER ADDRESSED A
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BANQUET MARKING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT. THE

SPEECH WAS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE US. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE DID NOT SPEAK FROM A PREPARED TEXT. NEVERTHELESS, OUR PRESS CONTACTS TELL US PORTIONS OF THE SPEECH WERE REPRODUCED AND PASSED OUT TO NEWSMEN WHO USED THIS MATERIAL IN SABC NEWS PROGRAMS LATE LAST NIGHT AND IN THIS MORNING'S FRONT PAGE BANNER HEADLINE STORIES. EFFORTS TO GET THE FULL TEXT OF THE SPEECH FROM DFA AND THE PM'S OFFICE THIS MORNING HAVE BEEN UNAVAILING. WE ARE TOLD THAT IT PROBABLY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL SOMETIME MONDAY, AUGUST 8. IN THE MEANTIME, THERE FOLLOWS A RESUME WITH QUOTES TAKEN FROM THE PRESS AND SAPA WIRE SERVICE.

3. VORSTER REPORTEDLY SAID US PRESSURES WOULD HAVE THE SAME RESULT IN SOUTH AFRICA AS A COMMUNIST REVOLUTION AND TAKEOVER. "IF THESE PRESSURES ARE INSISTED ON, THE END RESULT FOR SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE EXACTLY THE SAME AS IF IT WERE SUBVERTED BY MARXISTS." THE ONLY DIFFERENCE WOULD BE "STRANGULATION WITH FINESSE" INSTEAD OF "DEATH BY BRUTE FORCE." THE INTENTION MIGHT NOT BE THE DESTRUCTION OF SOUTH AFRICA, BUT THAT IS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN.

4. THE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE CAMAIGNS, VORSTER SAID, WAS BEING COORDINATED BY POWERFUL ORGANIZATIONS -- THE BLACK CAUCUS AMONG THEM -- BUT HAD BACKING UNCLASSIFIED

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IN OFFICIAL US CIRCLES, ONE MOTIVE BEING TO WIN AT ALL COSTS THE FAVOR IN THE THIRD WORLD, EXPECIALLY AFRICA "WITH ITS 50 SEATS IN THE UN OR APPROXIMATELY ONE-THIRD OF ITS MEMBERS." "MUCH OF THE PRESSURE SPRINGS FROM THE ACTIONS OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED, AND WHERE THAT IS SO IT IS MAINLY DONE FOR INTERNAL REASONS AND TO GAIN ELECTORAL SUPPORT." "THE AIM AND OBJECT OF THE PRESSURES ARE TO ISOLATE SOUTH AFRICA IN ALL FIELDS AND TO DISCOURAGE TRADE WITH AN INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA."

5. VORSTER CONTINUED: "THERE IS ALSO EVIDENCE THAT CERTAIN PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA BELIEVE -- AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE -- THAT THEY HAVE THE BACKING OF THE SAME SOURCES IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO BRING ABOUT RADICAL CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA BY EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY MEANS AND BY EXERTING CERTAIN PRESSURES, EVEN IF SUCH PRESSURE LEADS TO VIOLENCE AND DISORDER."

6. MR. VORSTER SAID HE BELIEVED SOUTH AFRICA WAS ESSENTIAL TO THE FREE WORLD. "I SAY TO THE FREE WORLD: DO NOT MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO PLAY

ITS ROLE IN THE FREE WORLD. I WOULD PUT THE QUESTION:
IF, AS A RESULT OF YOUR ACTIONS, SOUTH AFRICA IS
DESTROYED, WHAT WILL COME IN ITS PLACE ? WHAT CAN COME
IN ITS PLACE ? ON BEHALF OF MY COUNTRY AND MY PEOPLE I
SAY TO THE FREE WORLD: WHY MAKE AN ENEMY OF THE ONE
COUNTRY IN AFRICA WHICH CAN BE RELIED ON IF THE CRISIS
EVENTUALLY COMES ?" THE PRESSURES COMING FROM THE US
DID NOT HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.
VORSTER BELIEVED IN THE FAIRNESS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
AND PREDICTED THEY WOULD REJECT THE PRESSURES ONCE
AWARE OF THEIR PURPOSE.

7. TURNING TO AFRICA, THE PRIME MINISTER EXPECTED
THAT THE VOICE OF THE MODERATES WOULD INCREASINGLY
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BECOME HARD IN AFRICA AND WOULD EVENTUALLY BECOME THE
VOICE OF AFRICA. EVEN IF THIS WERE ONLY OUT OF SELF
INTEREST HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT IT WOULD HAPPEN. AFRICA HAD
IN THE PAST BEEN UNITED BY RECRIMINATIONS AGAINST
COLONIALISM AND BY HATRED OF SOUTH AFRICA THE CONTINENT
WAS NOW HOWEVER MORE DIVIDED THAN EVER BEFORE. "I SAY TO
AFRICA THAT IT HAS BECOME TIME THAT THEY COME TO THEIR
SENSES OTHERWISE THEY WILL DESTROY THEMSELVES IN THE
PROCESS." "IT HAS BECOME TIME THAT
AFRICA URGENTLY EXAMINES ITSELF. THEY WILL NOTE THAT
THE AFRICAN STATES WHO HAVE MADE MOST PROGRESS ARE
THOSE WHO HAVE GONE MODERATELY AND SOBERLY ON THEIR
WAY AND HAVE PUT THEIR OWN COUNTRY AND THEIR OWN PEOPLE
FIRST, RATHER THAN THOSE WHO HAVE CONDUCTED A
VENDETTA AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA."

8. THE PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED EVERY CONFIDENCE
IN THE COUNTRY'S FUTURE. "I AM NOT AFRAID OF THE FUTURE,
FROM WHATEVER ANGLE IT IS VIEWED." THE DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HE SAID, NEEDED TO CONTINUE CALMLY AND
COOLLY DOING WHAT WAS RIGHT. "WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO
RESIST THE PRESSURE FROM WHEREVER AND IN WHATEVER FORM
IT COMES WITH ALL THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO US HOWEVER
SMALL WE MIGHT BE WHEN MEASURED BY WORLD STANDARDS."

9. WE HAVE MADE REPEATED EFFORTS TO SECURE THE FULL
TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS, BUT, AS USUALLY
THE CASE WITH SPEECHES BY VORSTER AND OTHER MINISTERS,
IT IS NOT READY FOR DISTRIBUTION. THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S
OFFICE ADVISES US THE TEXT WILL PROBABLY NOT BE AVAILABLE
UNTIL SOMETIME MONDAY, AUGUST 8. BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, ALLEGATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1689358
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER ASSERTS US POLICY WILL LEAD TO CHAOS IN SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, PGOV, US, SF, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/074be360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009